

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 135

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 122

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 135—Relative to state employee merit awards.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 5, 2000.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 135, Wesson. State employee merit awards.

This measure would request that merit award payments, authorized by the Department of Personnel Administration, be made to specified individuals whose proposals have resulted in annual savings and net revenue gain to the state.

WHEREAS, Section 19823 of the Government Code authorizes the Department of Personnel Administration to make awards to current or retired state employees who propose procedures or ideas that are subsequently adopted and placed in effect that will result in eliminating or reducing state expenditures or improving state operations; and

WHEREAS, Any award granted under Section 19823 of the Government Code that is larger than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) must be approved by concurrent resolution of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Flood fighting along California's rivers often involves the placement of wave wash slope protection that generally consists of plastic sheeting anchored to a levee slope to minimize the erosion of the levee; and

WHEREAS, During the floods of 1996 and 1997, the Department of Water Resources encountered difficulties in obtaining grommets needed to anchor the plastic sheeting to levee slopes and these grommets are no longer available; and

WHEREAS, The grommets now commercially available are smaller, difficult to use, and in some cases, ineffective with the 10 millimeter thick plastic sheeting recommended for slope protection; and

WHEREAS, William R. Forsythe suggested that the Department of Water Resources design its own grommet mold and have grommets manufactured from the mold so that the suitable grommets could be produced on short notice; and

WHEREAS, The Chief of the Flood Protection and Geographic Information Branch, Central District, and the Division of Flood Management approved the idea and authorized Mr. Forsythe to research and design the grommet; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Water Resources, by using its own grommet mold, was able to produce grommets at approximately 4.44 cents each; in contrast, purchase orders for the 1997–98 fiscal year documented the costs of comparable grommets at 25 cents each; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Water Resources constructed a grommet mold and produced 300,000 grommets in 1998 and 200,000 of those grommets were utilized during the 1998 floods; the remaining grommets were stored and are available for use for future floods; and

WHEREAS, The department realized a first-year savings of sixty-eight thousand five hundred eighty-two dollars (\$68,582) based on the cost for 300,000 grommets if purchased from a private vendor less the cost of the department to manufacture 300,000 grommets; and

WHEREAS, As a result of these savings, it is unnecessary to appropriate funds for payment of the award to Mr. Forsythe; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Justice annually fingerprints without charge approximately 21,000 people, including applicants for the State Bar, real estate licenses, and school teacher credentials; and

WHEREAS, This free service has been staffed by fingerprint employees who were kept from their work of processing fingerprints, and the Department of Justice was the only public agency in Sacramento providing this service without charge; and

WHEREAS, The charging of ten dollars (\$10) per person would fund approximately six new positions to help eliminate the backlog of fingerprint searches; and

WHEREAS, Ray Hefley suggested that the Department of Justice charge ten dollars (\$10) for this service; the Department of Justice accepted Ray Hefley's suggestion for evaluation, evaluated it, and implemented it; and

WHEREAS, This suggestion was approved by the Chief of the Bureau of Identification, the Department of Justice Merit Award Coordinator, and the State Merit Award Board for a twenty-one thousand dollar (\$21,000) award based on yearly revenues of two hundred ten thousand dollars (\$210,000). As a result of these revenues, it is unnecessary to appropriate funds for payment of the award to Mr. Hefley; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby declares that merit award payments, authorized by the Department of Personnel Administration, are hereby made to William R. Forsythe in the amount of six thousand eight hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$6,858) and to Raymond L. Hefley in the amount of twenty-one thousand dollars (\$21,000); and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Controller and the Department of Personnel Administration.

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